Narcissism as the Root of Social Hierarchy

Dualism and the "Rationality" of Narcissism

Rationality and objectivity are crucial for human survival, and yet psychology shows that humans are not primarily rational creatures, and not really capable of objectivity. That is, our brains do not perceive physical reality as accurately as we imagine and there is no way to even really verify if we are being objective or not; and science, our best hope, if it is working correctly, only creates working models. Modern Western civilization is based on an Abrahamic worldview, which teaches that blind faith and obedience to authority is "rational;" and so admitting ignorance, and the inherent limitations of our culture, is tantamount to risking excommunication. Exceptionalism runs deep, because the culture of the West, is pretending that to be objectively "good," is to be "normal" and that it has the monopoly on determining what "normal" is. Humility is often implied to be conformity, and submission, but in reality, conformity is born of selfishness, and submission is born of fear. While Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD) is not unique to the West, due to the Abrahamic and Capitalist worldview which has been cultivated here, our memes are exceptionally narcissistic, and so even those who attempt to be "scientific," are often delusional about the things that matter most. Yet NPD is also found among Communists, or even Anarchists, because narcissism gets right to the core of who we think we are, and how we relate to the world, and even how we define words like "individual" or "consciousness."

To sum it up as briefly as possible, you should do further research into narcissism, as I can only scratch the surface here, nor can I train you to diagnose people, or treat them, but the most crucial thing I can say is, *we all need to deal with our own narcissistic tendencies*.

NPD is much more than vanity, it is delusions of grandeur, a lack of empathy, disconnection from most emotions in general, and a denial of trauma in yourself and others, and the importance of dealing with it. Narcissism is required for authoritarianism as the justification of all coercive hierarchies, and the delusion that justice is something to be imposed, or managed by some elite. Narcissism is typically dualistic, assuming "good" and "evil" have universal objective definitions, which are naturally ingrained into humanity. Narcissists love to imagine they are logical because they repress emotions, not knowing emotions and empathy evolved for very practical and rational reasons. Narcissism relies on logical fallacies which feed into each other, such as appeals to popularity, tradition, authority or what they individually define as "normal" thus creating tautologies, circular logic, and confirmation bias. The "Dunning Kruger Effect" describes how ignorant people are the least qualified for understanding how ignorant they are, or how much information in a given field there actually is, and so they are the most prone to delusions of grandeur. Yet we are all ignorant about many things, and truly intelligent people can have the Dunning Kruger effect, or become narcissists, because they see they are smarter than others, and so overestimate themselves. Psychology is not generally respected in Western Civilization, unless it is being used for marketing and propaganda, or to manipulate would be lovers, which is exactly how narcissists and authoritarians want it. It is very emotionally comforting to believe that people are primarily rational, as it creates a false sense of security, but also in a dualistic mind, anyone who disagrees with you can be labelled and dismissed as "evil" or "irrational." Dualism is a convenient worldview and through "false equivalency" can be used to justify just about anything, as Christians most clearly do, but dualistic atheists are certainly far from immune. That is, anyone "other" is "Satan," and so the ends always justify the means to fight Satan, and so in the end, increasingly authoritarian hierarchies can be justified. Thus might makes right, and the "logic" of power is always to consolidate more power to fight more "evil." If you are an atheist and have accepted dualistic memes, you are following the Abrahamic slave morality. If you are a capitalist, then you think everything can be commodified, and measured according to accurate market values. As social "Darwinism" is inherent to authoritarianism, and the so called "free market" is a "meritocracy," then being poor is evil, and anything is justified to become rich and "good." This mentality has infected

even non-capitalists, as hierarchies, born of dualism, create the market values for "social capital" which is validation, so as to attain status as an authority.

This is what passes for "logic" in the "rational" West, though most people will be relativistic to those they love, and more dualistic to outsiders, this just highlights the narcissistic opportunism, by which Western civilization functions. A full blown Narcissist sees everyone but them, as an outsider, a competitor, so that they are not only paranoid, but spread paranoia through Machiavellian tactics. Euphemisms hold enormous power in a superficial society motivated by pride, and can channel mob justice against scapegoats to maintain the denial of root problems. Capitalism commodifies everything, so life itself is a product to be sold, but only to those with "merit." So as the world turns to a barren wasteland, this is "good," as it drives up the prices for escapism, which has more value than life. To the narcissist, "rational" is typically a euphemism for ruthlessness, "freedom" is unaccountability, the freedom of the strong to oppress the "weak," "individuality" is selfishness, and "objectivity" is really superficial popularity. "Unity" is to the narcissist, conformity, submission to authority, which is "good" because it provides the illusion of objectivity, and stability, thus any problems can be blamed on an alien "other."

The narcissist is usually fatalistic, though they may present this as determinism, or causality, as they believe "human nature" is fixed and universal. Perhaps they think DNA or even skin colour determines everything, anything to distract from the importance of how we "nurture" each other. Narcs assume you are either born good, or bad, there is no real change, only the meritocracy sorting people. When Narcs are told they are "bad," they think they are unable to change, and so it is better to pretend to be good, then they act like a martyr when other's call them out.

In power systems, Narcissism is a feature, not a bug, as endless conflict provides endless scapegoats, and so the people are easily divided and conquered. Drawing upon Plato's "Noble Lie" of an original root race chosen by the divine, and given sacred laws, the Romans were masters at manipulating people via our narcissistic impulses, co-opting anything profitable, so as to control "the mob" with "bread and circuses." These narcissistic memes of control culminated in Catholicism, which ironically helped to destroy the empire, but ultimately paved the way for capitalism, which sought to measure people's worth according to how successfully they can exploit others. Communists have their own methods of measuring "merit," but these are likewise irrational, subjective, and narcissistic, pretending to be scientific, by limiting who gets research grants, or censoring anyone who goes against established dogmas. When it comes to governments in general, Plato in his book "Laws" lays out the core justification for the state, that is, fear of the "other" and being conquered. So the state justifies itself, as a defence against other states, who also claim to be defending themselves, when in truth it is hierarchical power systems which are the greatest threat to humanity. Indeed even if the state could provide real safety through such narcissistic tactics, or conquer the planet, to maintain that power system would create a world not worth living in. "Political debate" then, is usually just finding new ways to justify the same old failed ideas, so Anarchists should thus "decolonize," by ridding ourselves of memes that produce narcissism.

How Narcissism Originates

Narcissists are usually taught "right from wrong" from abusive parents, but as all coercive hierarchies operate through exceptionalism, a child can learn it anywhere. There is no explanation why something is right or wrong, as Narcs think they are too important to have to explain, if they even understand it themselves. So the morality of NPD parents is often "do it, because I said so" or if the child catches them in hypocrisy, "do as I say, not as I do." The implications are made obvious to the child, "good" is obedience to power, and "evil" is questioning power. Sometimes the child is forced to imitate their parent, denying them individual consciousness, substituting elitism towards others the parent sees as inferior, or buying loyalty to create a "spoiled brat." Yet other times the child may be groomed into serving or even parenting their own parent, acting as the mother, so as to cater to the

Narc's sense of inferiority. So through various forms of abuse, such kids will not have empathy for others, primarily because their Narc parent/s never had any for them, and if they see it among other people, they assume it is a pretense. The spoiled child is taught exceptionalism depends on imitating their parent, so these are more likely to develop "grandiose" NPD, which is the most obvious form. Those who were taught to service authorities, don't have a connection to their own feelings, and so anyone who doesn't serve the authorities blindly is "evil" and so not worthy of empathy. Servile kids may become people pleasers, but this is also narcissistic, usually "vulnerable narcissism" or "covert narcissism," which are more typical in left wing cultures. Such people are dependent on external validation, and as they can become sycophantic, they expect validation in exchange for their fawning. In any case, people with NPD do not understand their own emotional boundaries, and do not respect other peoples boundaries.

Narcissists are also products of the school system, which is usually just training for employment. Public education is not designed to create autonomous rational individuals with understanding, but to condition children into being obedient. Children are forced to compete and receive grades, based on how well they memorize information and adhere to the conditioning. It's easy to imagine a child with ADD, or who is otherwise neurodivergent and does not respond well to this style of "education," being misdiagnosed or labelled "stupid." As the child is not stupid, or even "bad", they learn first hand that authorities and their followers are very fallible, and cannot be trusted. What is more, children are given no motivation to admit their ignorance, or when they are struggling, lest they risk getting such labels, or become embarrassed in class. The further they fall behind, the worse these kids are made to feel, so to protect their sense of self, they go into fantasies, and develop spite towards learning in general. Learning only reminds them of their inferiority, so they never learn how to learn, or how to asses what they know, and so they never develop the "meta-cognition" necessary for self awareness, nor do they develop empathy for other's who are learning. Some illiterate people go to extreme lengths to hide their ignorance, even when learning to read would be easier, so also the narcissist hides their ignorance, particularly when it comes to emotions and meta-cognition.

Nobody likes cognitive dissonance, but Narcs live to deny it, usually to avoid their own trauma, because "good" people don't experience trauma in this supposed objective meritocracy. It is comforting to think you are objective, and your trauma does not effect your actions, at least in the short term, but this is not rational, and is based in self deception. If you ever hear someone say, "my parents did X to me as a child, and I am turned out alright" you can be sure they are not alright, they are justifying abuse, usually to justify further abuse against those who deviate from social norms. The narcissist's top priority is staying in denial that they are not "good" and so this means denial they have any flaws, including trauma, unless it is convenient for them to play the victim. That is narcissists love empathy, but only for themselves.

Narcissism as Martyr Complex

Narcissists, like Fascists, live vicariously through the authorities they imitate, and imagine themselves to be like, and so the concept of a master race is often very appealing. (See "Mass Psychology of Fascism" by Wilhelm Reich) Prejudice is the idea that certain life forms do not deserve empathy, are trivial, or are inherently "bad" just for being different and so to me it is a form of Narcissism based on assumptions about normality. In this way, the Narc can take credit for all "good" things white people have done, while also avoiding responsibility for anything "bad" done to none whites, ie "bad" people. Capitalism is a popularity contest, and so specific demographics compete against each other by promoting prejudice, and fascism can occur when traditional social hierarchies are overturned. Narcissists spitefully resort to fascism to restore their self image, imagining themselves martyrs for their demographic. Narcs use self fulfilling prophecies to justify their world views, and so may sabotage other social groups, which further strengthens their confirmation bias that they are superior. Narcissism in this way is not only psychotic, it is a kind of obsessive compulsive disorder, a

superiority complex, which cannot allow anything to contradict that dictator of the mind, the ego.

Most assume “ego” refers to the self, but psychology shows it is not consciousness, ego is really just how we interact with others, utilizing memes like language, which are inherently subjective, but which are used to construct an identity, hence the ego is what identifies as a martyr. This common misconception is because psychology itself, is popularly portrayed as narcissistic “navel gazing,” so the more narcissistic you are, the more you engage in shadow projection; thus self awareness is called narcissism, and narcissism is called self awareness. In reality, it is actually the ego which falls prey to group think, which desires to conform, to follow authorities, and it is the ego which does the most to prevent people attaining their true potential for rational thought. Emotions are reactions which provide information and are interpreted by the ego, which then justifies preconceptions through rationalizations. While emotions do not inherently promote Anarchism, a lack of maturity, or repression, or shaming people for people being ignorant, or immature, is neither functional, nor enjoyable in the long run, especially since joy is itself an emotion. Shadow projection often creates irony, an obvious example being the cult of Trump, as narcissists will believe anyone who looks “alpha” and tells them what they want to hear, eg, that they are “mature” “realists” who's subservience also makes them into “alphas.” Narcissists are thus easy to manipulate, you just have to provoke them into defending their pride, either through reverse psychology, or through providing scapegoats. Once tricked, the Narc will go into denial they made a mistake, but as reality intrudes, they imagine themselves as a martyr, especially if anyone points out their flaws.

Hierarchies depend on narcissism and also amplify it, as their martyr complex causes Narcs to opportunistically bury their true selves for their ambitions, and this is justified through the above circular logic. The “Protestant Work Ethic” is the origin of the capitalist martyr syndrome, so that to not work for your masters and love them as Jesus, is to risk damnation, and such memes have infected atheists as well. It doesn't matter if your work harms others and the environment, it doesn't matter if you get to enjoy the fruits of your labour, or even if the problem you were working to fix is a real problem, what matters is obedience to authority and keeping busy, to stay in denial and keep up appearances.

A narcissist may recognize corruption, but believes that human nature is incapable of anything better, even if they believe themselves to be the unique exception, what is “rational” to them, is to eat, and not be eaten, because they are primarily cowards. This fear of ostracism, or being embarrassed, or being scapegoated, is typically based on personal experience, which they are desperate to forget. So the narcissist is a hypocrite, looking for revenge, justifying anything as self defence against a world out to get them personally. We have all done narcissistic things at some point in our lives, but the Narc does it compulsively, and often unconsciously, or goes into denial after the fact, living in cognitive dissonance.

Many capitalists, particularly patriarchal ones, or INCELs, are learning specific tactics to abuse others, euphemistically called “charisma” or “persuasion” and so learning these tactics, is the first step to stopping them. INCELs have come up with detailed political explanations as to why they are rejected by women, so that they can maintain their NDP delusions and martyr complex by scapegoating “feminists” etc, for not accepting abuse, or acting as obedient sex slaves. They may be an angry loner, but can still be a narcissist, as many are incompetent abusers, and avoiding intimacy or rejection are methods to maintain denial of inferiority. People with NPD will also try to normalize their own trauma, by traumatizing others, so that they can gaslight themselves into thinking they are superior. Gas-lighting is an abuse tactic where the victim is made to doubt their own memories, so that they will believe they are crazy, or become dependent on their abuser to lead them. Narcs lie even when there is no real benefit or even when they won't be believed, because they are also gas-lighting themselves, so as to stay in denial. To have empathy requires self awareness, which the child was taught to repress, and awareness of other's feelings, which would remind them of their own feelings, and so this too must be repressed. “Hurt people, hurt people” and so as Narcs are envious of those with self awareness, they seek to sabotage them. A Narc then, is rather solipsistic, unable to really see others as having their own

independent lives, but only as objects, or “NPCs” to be manipulated. Thus the narcissist is much like the “jealous” god Jehovah, acting as a dictator in their own personal creation, and demanding blind obedience and worship.

If a Narc does submit to someone, it is merely to achieve status, or to learn from someone who can teach them to be a more functional narcissist; they can be truly sycophantic towards those with power, as a means of riding their coat tails. As you have probably heard before, bullies are actually scared of being exposed as weak, or having emotions, and so often suck up to bigger bullies, or crumble when confronted by real courage. In their mind then, the Narc fears being treated the same as they treat others, they have contempt for humanity, but as they believe they are “normal” they imagine everyone else is like them, a narcissist. So the Narc uses projection and scapegoating to gaslight themselves, but they also hate most people, even as they pretend to be just like them, which is an unconscious reflection of their own self hatred. That is, the Narc thinks they are just better at such tactics than most, that they are merely experts in self promotion, or else defending themselves against everyone else, who they believe are envious of them, just as the Narc is envious of anyone with status. So a narcissist must always find scapegoats in order to explain their failures and maintain their place in a hierarchy, just as governments and capitalists must always find scapegoats for their unending failures.

Narcissists can certainly imitate empathy, or compassion, but can justify anything to stay in denial, much as a drug addict can always justify more drugs to self medicate for their martyr complex. Indeed narcissism is rampant among addicts, but what the prohibitionists wont tell you, is that this includes “shopaholics,” or addiction to power and validation etc. If we can create a culture that people don't want to escape from, then addiction, which is a coping mechanism, will naturally subside. Dopamine creates desires, but can never create satisfaction, or happiness, which requires serotonin, and so instead of cultivating intimacy, Narcissists are addicted to control, which makes them feel safe, and placates their OCD. So it follows that dualism, with it's easy answers, is addictive, as it provides dopamine through delusions of being successfully “good” or better than others.

Tips on dealing with Narcissism

We are all susceptible to NPD, so “shadow work” is useful for gaining a deeper understanding of yourself and what you really want, as each Anarchist must “Know Thyself” to know what they want to consent to. If you are clinging to hate of capitalists, or trauma you suffered, to motivate you to political action, you are motivated by dualistic revenge and spite, and so are unable to think rationally, or engage in tactics which actually create meaningful change. Understand that rationality is a skill to be learned, some may have a natural talent for it, but it is not encouraged in mainstream society, or taught in most public schools. The more rational you become, the more you realize how irrational you were and didn't know it. Narcissists imitate rationality, but they lack understanding, and so learning about logical fallacies and cognitive bias is your best means for seeing through their arguments. That said, “rationality” and cognitive science is far more contested than people would like to think, so humility is the key to science. Telling yourself you are humble and have no room for improvement, is really just a justification to avoid doing your own due diligence, and shadow work. We learn through personal experience and self examination, but we all make mistakes, or have bad days, or have our own individual traumas which effect us more than we think. A narcissist believes their trauma can never be healed, so they are ashamed to talk about it and this becomes a self fulfilling prophecy. Their trauma defines their sense of self, so they are incapable of empathy, and instead expect everyone to live in denial, like them, a “good” person, who doesn't want to “burden” others.

To avoid wishful thinking, you need “meta-cognition,” that is, to think about thinking, to find out how much you really know, what you truly want in life, but also to learn how to learn more objectively, and then learn the skills to make your desires a reality. Do not expose narcissists to get revenge, do not bother to explain how they hurt you emotionally, simply point out the truth as you see it, and the narcissist will go into denial. If you know your own boundaries, and continue to confront

them without getting triggered, they will go after easier prey, so as to stay in denial, and get their authoritarian fix of dopamine. Narcissists love the idea that they win an argument by provoking an emotional response, and so you can point out that this is not rational at all, but an ad hominem, and a fallacious appeal to their authority. The main purpose then is not to cure the narcissist, like addicts, you cannot help those who don't want it, the goal is simply to raise awareness for others of what narcissism actually is, and how they operate, and how we all need to do our own shadow work and deal with trauma. While Narcissists can hide by imitating empathy, or compassion, as they lack meta-cognition, they lack the capacity for nuance, though they may endlessly make semantic arguments, or attack a person's rhetoric as an ad hominem. The narcissist is pedantic, and often obsessed with literalism, as they memorize factoids and get confused with metaphors, or expressions which require self awareness or actual understanding of a subject. If a Narc gets confused, they will assume its because the other person is wrong, or even lying. If a narcissist is appealing to their own authority, or their own supposed objective definition of "good," you can simply use the Socratic method of asking loaded questions, to expose for others how petty and selfish their world view is, and how irrational and filled with cowardice and cognitive dissonance they really are. Anarchists cannot force themselves on others, but we also cannot expect people with "normal" levels of narcissism to learn empathy, or "meta-cognition" on their own. Nor should we be surprised people lack the courage to risk further alienation, if all we are offering, is shame for them being "evil." So again, you should not shame people for exposing their ignorance, if they are willing to learn, but do not attempt to cure NPD, or people trying to abuse you. Instead, focus on building the inclusive community you do want, with the people who demonstrate real emotional maturity, all while considering the criticisms of outsiders.

Further Reading

So for further research, to start with, I suggest you look on youtube for "Doctor Ramani," who specializes in NPD, though there are plenty others who can provide insights, she is very comprehensive. "The Myth of Normal" by Psychologist Gabor Mate explains how abuse creates trauma, which is stored in the body, and can have severe physical effects, such as causing auto-immune disease, or stress, which can cause heart attacks and all kinds of illness. Mate also shows some political dimensions of all this, particularly when discussing the illusion of what "normal" even means, and how harmful these assumptions can be. For example, trauma is normal, it does not mean you have to be controlled by it, or that it is "good," life experiences and learning to heal yourself build character, not ignoring trauma. Biologist Frans de Waal has a variety of great books on topics like animal politics and psychology, why emotions are important, or what a more scientific view of justice might look like, without moralist dualism. He goes well with Kropotkin's book "Mutual Aid," and his books will also be of particular interest to those wishing to understand anthropocentrism, as a form of narcissism targeting other species. In "The Master and his Emissary" by Iain McGilchrist, I gained crucial insights into the narcissism of Western culture, and how the left brain cannot recognize its own ignorance, and so is prone to "confabulation" to come up with explanations. Westerners generally think we are rational because we repress emotions and intuition, so we never learn to utilize our faculties holistically, or verify their insights, and so we are particularly prone to confabulation.

"The Folly of Fools" by Robert Trivers argues that we evolved to lie to ourselves, and believe it, so that we can lie to others more effectively. Narcissists usually learn this as children, not only to be better liars, but as a survival mechanism, to avoid being exiled by the community, or rejected by parents with NPD. Despite this, humanity evolved to live in trusting egalitarian communities, and learn from our elders, to become autonomous individuals who love their community and so willingly contribute to it. From this I realized a narcissist may see others also lie to themselves, and exploit this to justify their own behaviour as "normal," but being competitive, they parasitically exploit humanity's natural tendency to trust and engage in mutual aid, which can develop into what some Native people call "Wetiko." Due to the "Lucifer effect," which shows authorities can induce sadism through

hierarchy, if not put in check, Narcissism, or even Psychopathy, can grow like a virus until it destroys it's host society from within.

In the book, “Games People Play,” by psychologist Eric Berne, we learn of “transactional analysis” where people play various parasitic “games” to extract validation. Validation is measured in units he calls “strokes,” as a baby will die if it does not receive physical caresses, and so we are biologically programmed to seek community. While not explicit, this view of “transactional” relationships shows perfectly how narcissism is based on capitalist principles of exploitation. Some sociologists have also written about “social capital” which is very similar, but distinct, yet in both cases the Narcissist is obsessed with keeping score and is essentially running a pyramid scheme. (See also “The Molecule of More” by Daniel Z. Lieberman MD, and Michael E. Long, “The Enigma of Reason” by: Hugo Mercier and Dan Sperber and “The Psychology of Stupidity” by: Jean-Francois Marmion)

Narcissism and Anarchist Praxis

Autonomy requires self awareness, “meta-cognition” and emotional maturity, and these require group discussions, and honest feedback, which are potentially maximized in Anarchism, but only if authentic solidarity exists. Narcissists may imitate an understanding of Anarchism, so as to promote themselves as having expertise, or appoint themselves as a “gatekeeper,” that is, being a “real Anarchist” opposed to all the fake ones. This is not to say that Anarchists shouldn't continue to scrutinize each other, on the contrary, this is crucial for preventing NPD cliques, or “communal narcissism” where an in group thinks they are inherently superior to others, and so engages in exceptionalism. Dualism is neither realistic or helpful, and if your theory of change does not allow for human emotions and empathy, it's not Anarchist, or practical. Narcissism is the biggest threat to solidarity, which requires empathy, altruism and egalitarianism, and is the foundation of any “real Anarchist” worldview. Without solidarity, there can be no trust, so no real mutual aid and no intellectual honesty while trying to build consensus and so rooting out narcissistic tendencies, first within yourself, and then others in the Anarchist community, is the main tactic I want to advocate.

Authenticity is the most effective cure for narcissism, as it is how we can lead by example, not by trying to “fix” others, or impose laws, but because narcissists lie about being authentic, true authenticity makes them look fake by comparison. Authenticity also makes it harder for narcissists to appeal to group think, that is if real altruism, born of compassion and self awareness and real individuality is “popular,” or “normal,” then the narcissist will attempt to conform to that culture, and will have a hard time doing so, if they never truly confront their shadow. As Anarchist Anthropologists David Graeber and David Wengrow explain in their book, “The Dawn of Everything,” different cultures may form by engaging in “schismogenesis” to spite their neighbour, creating escalating diametrically opposed memes, in order to distinguish themselves from the hated other. Thus different social hierarchies are created out of spite, to avoid the emotional labour of living with a narcissistic group, some may be more just, or Anarchist than others, but are still reactionary, and so counter-productive for Anarchism. In terms of narcissism then, as it has so many cultural expressions, and is subjective, we must not become anti-narcissist elitists, as this would be hypocritical, nor can we impose some cultural construct of “love” which is basically the same as imposing “good.” Instead, Anarchists must create authentically compassionate communities, first and foremost by having empathetic solidarity with other Anarchists, and those who are abused or oppressed. This also means avoiding the creation of an ivory tower, by engaging with non-Anarchists, understanding that it is their fear of the “other” which makes them think Anarchism is unrealistic.

If nothing else, Anarchists must promote tolerance, by spreading true information about those things and people the “normal” people find so scary. Shaming xenophobes does not cure them of their mental illness, but neither does enabling them, or tolerating lies and abuse, and so providing examples of functional diversity is the best way to normalize tolerance. Yet as prejudiced abusers will never listen to their victims, for those who have an aptitude for it, white, cis, strait men, are the best positioned to

fight prejudice in the West, by laying out rationally, why prejudice is irrational.

While Grandiose Narcissism is the most common form in the West, it is “Collective Narcissism,” “Vulnerable Narcissism” and “Covert Narcissism” which are the most common forms found in Anarchists. So in terms of the Anarchist community, we must learn about these and be on guard, as there really are people out there who will say anything to get their way, or simply to get attention, some may even try to infiltrate Anarchist groups to sabotage them out of spite. Any algorithm you use to sort people into “good” and “bad” will be inherently flawed, and so try your best to reconcile any dualistic views you have. Stop thinking you know what other's think, as it's most likely projection or based on the “horn and halo effect” of stereotypes. This does not mean standing by when “evil” happens, or ignoring “red flags” but being proactive in your authenticity, as anger is often justified, even if hatred is never. No matter how “rational” it seems, dualism will eventually lead you into irrational hypocrisy, or potentially open you up to be exploited by liars seeking to conform, or those who find the loopholes in your algorithm.

“It takes a village to raise a child,” and so as so many parents have some degree of narcissism, and there is no real community with capitalism, the kids have to raise themselves, and we should not shame them for being incompetent at that. If people can recognize they have trauma, by focusing on those feelings, they can challenge assumptions about it, to “re-frame”or rewrite internal scripts which keep them identifying as a “victim” of “evil.” An Anarchist community can provide such experiences, but can only exist with those who consent to self awareness, and authenticity, and when outsiders see what a real community looks like, they will question how “good” they really have it. While providing opportunities to learn meta-cognition is helpful, the people who need it most, are least likely to accept any help. So, by creating communities of authentic egalitarian individuals, it will inspire others to question their assumptions, and get their priorities in order, to DIY, shamelessly, warts and all. They say “a work of art is never finished, only abandoned” and I say the cultivation of consciousness, through life, is an artistic expression, and so it is, we are all a work in progress, no matter how advanced, a real artist only competes with themself.